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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/47/721)]

47/197. International cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990, the Paris Declaration and Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, 1/ the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s 2/ and the Cartagena Commitment, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session, in February 1992, 3/

1/ Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990 (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

2/ Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

3/ TD/364, part one, sect. A.

Reaffirming also principle 5 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 4/ chapter 3 of Agenda 21, 5/ principle 7 (a) of the Non-legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of All Types of Forests, 6/ and all other decisions and recommendations adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development relating to the eradication of poverty, 7/

Reaffirming further its resolutions 43/195 of 20 December 1988, 44/212 of 22 December 1989, 45/213 of 21 December 1990 and 46/141 of 17 December 1991,

Noting that the eradication of poverty in all countries, in particular in developing countries, has become one of the priority development objectives for the 1990s,

Stressing that effective national policies supported by a favourable international economic environment can promote sustained and sustainable development in all countries, in particular in developing countries, thus increasing their capacity to undertake social and economic programmes to eradicate poverty,

Noting with concern the negative effects of large debt burdens and their impact on poorer sections of society in many developing countries,

Recognizing that poverty is a complex and multidimensional problem with origins in both the national and international domains, and that its eradication constitutes an important factor to ensure sustainable development,

Noting that the efforts made at the national and international levels need to be enhanced to ensure the eradication of poverty,

1. Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General on the subject; 8/

2. Stresses the importance of domestic policies, including effective budgetary policies, to mobilize and allocate domestic resources for the eradication of poverty through, inter alia, the creation of employment and income-generating programmes, with particular reference to households headed by women, the implementation of food security, health, education, housing and population programmes and the strengthening of national capacity-building execution programmes;

4/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

5/ Ibid., annex II.

6/ Ibid., annex III.

7/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26).

8/ A/47/530.

3. Encourages all countries to undertake national strategies and programmes for the eradication of poverty, in particular devoted to the poorest strata of society, and involving a more active participation of the targeted communities in the initiative for and implementation, follow-up and evaluation of specific projects;

4. Reaffirms that a supportive international economic environment which takes into account the review of resource flows and structural adjustment programmes, integrating social and environmental dimensions, is crucial to the success of efforts of developing countries to deal with the eradication of poverty;

5. Reiterates its request to the international community to adopt specific, effective measures designed to increase financial flows to developing countries, and urges the developed countries, which have reaffirmed their commitment to reach the accepted United Nations target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance, to the extent that they have not yet achieved that target, to agree to augment their aid programmes in order to reach that target as soon as possible, some developed countries having agreed to reach the target by the year 2000; other developed countries, in line with their support for reform efforts in developing countries, agree to make their best efforts to increase their level of official development assistance;

6. Urges all donors to contribute generously to the tenth replenishment of the International Development Association, to the fourth replenishment of the International Fund for Agricultural Development and to other international financial institutions, with a view to ensuring that those institutions continue in their fight against poverty, especially in rural areas;

7. Urges the international community to continue to undertake technical cooperation programmes with a view to strengthening income and job creation capacities, improving food security, health, education and housing, and meeting other basic needs of the populations of developing countries, in particular the poorest groups among them, and, in that context, reaffirms that, with respect to the transfer of technology on favourable terms, including concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights as well as the special needs of developing countries for the implementation of Agenda 21, effective modalities should be examined with a view to implementing and enhancing that transfer as soon as possible;

8. Encourages the international community, including the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to support development programmes in all countries, in particular developing countries, including human resources development programmes, in order to strengthen endogenous technical capacity and generate opportunities for production and employment;

9. Welcomes the decision of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at its eighth session to set up a Standing Committee on Poverty Alleviation and to request the Trade and Development Board to attach high priority to its work in the framework of its agreed terms of reference; 3/

10. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the progress made in coordinating action, in cooperation with governmental and non-governmental organizations and other multilateral bodies, to formulate improved and enhanced action-oriented technical cooperation programmes for the eradication of poverty in all countries, particularly in developing countries, within the framework of the United Nations system, in accordance with the policies, priorities and strategies of those countries;

11. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-eighth session the item entitled "International cooperation for the eradication of poverty in developing countries".

93rd plenary meeting
22 December 1992